

DPD-2917-59

30 April 1959

**MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Plans)**

**SUBJECT : Possible Acquisition of C-130 Aircraft**

1. In several discussions over the past few weeks mention has been made by you and in your presence of the possible acquisition by CIA of one or more C-130 aircraft in order to permit the rounding out of an Agency capability to conduct denied limited warfare activities on a wholly self-sufficient basis. I am not aware that anyone has been assigned the specific task of researching the matter further with regard to costs, possible delivery schedule and potential cover arrangements, although I do believe that [REDACTED] may have undertaken part of such a task himself.

2. In the belief that we should at least study the implications of such a move, I should like to recommend that authorization be granted by you to the undersigned to direct such a task to be undertaken. A recent copy of Aviation Week magazine disclosed the interesting information that Lockheed is about to produce a modification of the basic C-130 aircraft to be identified as the "Super-Hercules". This modification features, of course, additional range and carrying capability through the acquisition of length both to the fuselage and wing span, and the addition of enlarged fuel capacity. Were we to actively consider acquiring a C-130 aircraft, it would be useful if we could take advantage of the latest developments which presumably would be offered in this revised version.

3. As a means of getting such an inquiry underway, I should like to suggest that we be authorized to get in touch with Mr. C. L. [REDACTED] who presumably could acquire specific information on the Super-Hercules directly from the Marietta plant without exciting the speculation attendant upon a formal request for this information levied from another source. At the conclusion of such a study, the staff would then be in a position to recommend to you the course of action to follow in acquiring this or any other

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similar aircraft which might meet the basic air logistics requirements.

**SIGNED**

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**Acting Chief, DPD-DD/P**

cc: A/DD/P

**Request in para. 3 APPROVED:**

(sgd) Richard M. Bissell, Jr.

1 MAY 1959

**Deputy Director  
(Plans)**

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